

Claims

1. A method in a communication system comprising:
activating a data channel between a first and a second
5 station;
starting a timer function;
maintaining the data channel in a ready state until the
timer function indicates an expiry of a predefined period;
initiating transmission of data on the data channel; and
10 preventing the data channel to change from the ready
state to another state based on the timer function until a
predefined event.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one
15 timer of the timer function is stopped until an indication of
the event.
3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one
timer of the timer function is reset upon receipt of said
20 indication.
4. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one
timer of the timer function is restarted in response to said
indication.
- 25 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer
function is ignored until an indication of the event.
6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer
30 function is reset in response to an indication of the event.
7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the event
comprises an indication that the data transmission has ended.

8. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer function is prevented to have impact on the state of the data channel during the data transmission.

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9. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of said predefined period is set during the activation of the data channel based on a timer value.

10 10. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the state of the data channel is changed to said other state based on an indication by a further timer.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the further
15 timer is implemented by a logical link control function.

12. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein an indication of the expiry of the further timer is handled by the system as it would be an indication from the timer function.

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13. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first station comprises a mobile station and the second station comprises a base station of a cellular communication system.

25 14. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a data channel that is in the ready state prevents communication over another channel between the two stations.

15. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication
30 system is based on a TERrestrial TRunked Radio (TETRA) standard or similar.

16. A communication system comprising:

a first station and a second station, wherein a data channel can be established for data communication between the stations;

5 a timer function for provision of an indication based on which the state of a data channel established between the two stations is changed from a ready state to another state; and

10 a control function responsive to said timer function and for controlling the state of the data channel, the arrangement being such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the timer function until a predefined event has occurred.

15 17. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the timer function comprises at least one timer that can be stopped until occurrence of the predefined event.

20 18. A communication system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the timer function is ignored until the occurrence of the event.

25 19. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the timer function comprises at least one timer that can be restarted in response to an indication of the occurrence of the event.

20. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the timer function is adapted to be reset in response to an indication that the event has occurred.

30 21. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the event comprises an indication that data transmission is completed.

22. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the timer function is implemented on such a layer of a connection function model that is higher than a layer of said model on which the data communication functionality is handled.

23. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, comprising a further timer implemented in a lower function layer of a connection function model than on which said timer function is implemented.

24. A communication system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the further timer is implemented in a logical link control entity.

25. A communication system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the controller is adapted to handle an indication of the expiry of the further timer as it would be an indication from the timer function.

26. A communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first station comprises a mobile station and the second station comprises a base station of a cellular communication system.

27. A communication system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the communication system is based on a TERrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) standard or similar.

28. A station for a communication system, said station comprising:

communication means for establishing a data channel for data communication between the station and another station;

a timer function for provision of an indication based on which the state of a data channel established between the station and said other station is to be changed from a ready state to another state, wherein the arrangement is such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the timer function until occurrence of a predefined event.